

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

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NOTIFICATION OF ELECTION

(PCT Rule 61.2)

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

To:

United States Patent and Trademark
Office
(Box PCT)
Crystal Plaza 2
Washington, DC 20231
ETATS-UNIS D'AMERIQUE

in its capacity as elected Office

Date of mailing (day/month/year) 01 April 1998 (01.04.98)	Applicant's or agent's file reference P07816 PC
International application No. PCT/GB97/02172	Priority date (day/month/year) 15 August 1996 (15.08.96)
International filing date (day/month/year) 12 August 1997 (12.08.97)	
Applicant HALLEY, David, George et al	

1. The designated Office is hereby notified of its election made:

☒ in the demand filed with the International Preliminary Examining Authority on:
12 March 1998 (12.03.98)

☐ in a notice effecting later election filed with the International Bureau on:

2. The election ☒ was
☐ was not

made before the expiration of 19 months from the priority date or, where Rule 32 applies, within the time limit under Rule 32.2(b).

The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland Facsimile No.: (41-22) 740.14.35	Authorized officer B. Fitzgerald Telephone No.: (41-22) 338.83.38
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PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

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INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference MGE/SC/P07816 PC	FOR FURTHER ACTION See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (PCT/IPEA/416)	
International application No. PCT/GB97/02172	International filing date (day/month/year) 12/08/1997	Priority date (day/month/year) 15/08/1996
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC D06N3/04		
Applicant W.L. GORE & ASSOCIATES (UK) LTD. et al.		

1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.



2. This REPORT consists of a total of 4 sheets, including this cover sheet.

- ☐ This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).

These annexes consist of a total of sheets.

3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

- I ☒ Basis of the report
- II ☐ Priority
- III ☐ Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- IV ☐ Lack of unity of invention
- V ☒ Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- VI ☐ Certain documents cited
- VII ☐ Certain defects in the international application
- VIII ☒ Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand 12/03/1998	Date of completion of this report 24. 11. 98
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/  European Patent Office D-80298 Munich Tel. (+49-89) 2399-0. Tx: 523656 epmu d Fax: (+49-89) 2399-4465	Authorized officer Tragoustis, M Telephone No. (+49-89) 2399-8623 

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
EXAMINATION REPORT**

International application No. PCT/GB97/02172

I. Basis of the report

1. This report has been drawn on the basis of *(substitute sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to the report since they do not contain amendments.)*:

Description, pages:

1-22 as originally filed

Claims, No.:

1-57 as originally filed

Drawings, sheets:

1/4-4/4 as originally filed

2. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- ☐ the description, pages:
☐ the claims, Nos.:
☐ the drawings, sheets:

3. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed (Rule 70.2(c)):

4. Additional observations, if necessary:

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No. PCT/GB97/02172

V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Yes: Claims 1-57
	No: Claims
Inventive step (IS)	Yes: Claims 1-57
	No: Claims
Industrial applicability (IA)	Yes: Claims 1-57
	No: Claims

2. Citations and explanations

see separate sheet

VIII. Certain observations on the international application

The following observations on the clarity of the claims, description, and drawings or on the question whether the claims are fully supported by the description, are made:

see separate sheet

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
EXAMINATION REPORT - SEPARATE SHEET**

International application No. PCT/GB97/02172

1. The application relates to a flexible water resistant, water-vapour-permeable composite material for a garment.
According to claim 1 the composite material comprises a water resistant, water-vapour-permeable flexible substrate with a fabric secured to the first side of the substrate. On the second side of the substrate a plurality of discrete abrasion-resisting polymeric dots are provided forming a discontinuous lining-forming pattern.
This discontinuous pattern of abrasion resisting polymeric material provides abrasion resistance and durability comparable to the conventional inner liner being laminated on the surface of the substrate while at the same time the water-vapour-permeability of the substrate is not unduly decreased.
None of the documents cited in the search report gives a hint towards such a discontinuous abrasion resisting lining.
Independent claim 30 is directed to the novel and inventive process of producing the above composite lining material.
Hence independent claims 1 and 30 as well as the dependent claims 2-29 and 31-57 satisfy the requirements of Art. 33 PCT.
2. In order for the claimed composite lining material to show acceptable abrasion resistance and water-vapour permeability it is considered necessary that the polymeric dots cover 20-80% of the surface of the substrate (see claim 15). Further the polymeric material should have an elastic modulus greater than 5.5N/mm² (see page 6, line 10 from the bottom). These two essential features should thus be included in the independent claims 1 and 30 (Art. 6 PCT).